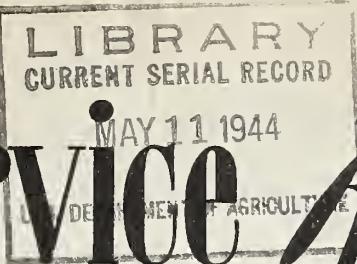


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Producing to the utmost

Maximum production calls for an intensive educational program in efficient production and conservation

The month of May finds the 48 States, Puerto Rico, and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, putting into action well-worked-out plans for an intensive educational campaign in war food production and conservation. More than 3,000 additional war food extension workers are now on the job. More and better leaflets and bulletins on food production are coming off the press every month than the Extension Service ever produced before. Leader training, farm visits, production meetings fill the agents' busy days as the growing season really gets under way.

Some States have had difficulty in finding well-trained war food assistants; but in general excellently trained persons have been found among the ranks of retired farmers, former teachers, agents, or trained leaders. Former home demonstration agents, farm security supervisors, or teachers whose husbands are in the armed services have proved an excellent source of new women workers. Soldiers returning from the front are filling some of the vacancies in the ranks of war production assistants.

One of the biggest problems is the training of this large group of new workers. The magnitude of this problem is increased by the wartime accelerated turn-over of regular agents. Normally, about 825 new workers are trained every year; but in this year of the war 1,500 replacements are being made, and this number has to be added to the more than 3,000 new war food assistants and secretaries, making a total of something like 4,531 new extension workers who must get an understanding of what the war food program is and how it is to be put into effect, as well as learning about the extension organization, policies and methods.

Some States have simplified the prob-

lem by clearly defining the jobs in war food production and conservation which the new workers are to do. For example, in New York State these assistants will organize and help with community meetings at which experiences in increasing food production are exchanged by farmers, and plans made for greater cooperative use of equipment and labor. They will organize custom spray service or spray rings; conduct seed-treating services; make soil tests; arrange for the most effective use of the time of the district engineers for machinery-repair service and clinics; and also hold demonstrations and answer questions on problems of disease control, building and remodeling to save labor, and emergency rotation plans.

In the State of Washington, these food production assistants are being given the job of giving demonstrations in garden practices, insect control, harvesting, building equipment, poultry culling, canning, drying, freezing, and storing. They will also train 4-H leaders, assist in developing the 8-point milk production program, and assist in organizing community canning centers.

JIT Courses Help

The numerous job-instruction training courses now scheduled in every part of the country are training many specialists who will help to train the new workers. Extension leaders trained by former agents are also carrying some of the load in familiarizing the new workers with local problems and extension organization.

The extension program in war food production has necessitated the hiring of about 1,200 additional county secretaries and clerks. In many States, special training conferences are being arranged to help these secretaries con-

tribute to the general extension program.

War food production and conservation among Negroes is being given a boost through the appointment of nearly 400 Negro workers. North Carolina, having the largest number, has developed an intensive program in production and conservation of food, marketing surpluses systematically, using farm labor to the best advantage, and using the basic 7 foods to improve family diet. The majority of the new workers were put in counties which never have had Negro extension agents.

Neighborhood Leaders Prepared

Plans for reaching every farmer have been well worked out. Iowa, for example, plans to reach every farmer at least once by June 30. Approximately 28,000 neighborhood leaders—1 man and 1 woman for each 4 square miles—have been trained to this end. Meetings are being held in every community using 2,000 sets of 2-color charts to explain the food situation and a check card for each farmer so that he can see for himself how nearly he is ready to meet his best production efforts. Leaders make personal visits with the check card to farmers not attending meetings. The leaders are also responsible for arranging the meeting places and getting attendance.

Neighborhood leaders are being used successfully in a number of States. A Minnesota agent tells how his neighborhood leaders organized 74 neighborhood meetings during February and March, with a total attendance of 1,110 neighbors, to work on feed production.

In Oklahoma, the question of what insecticides are available is a live issue, and leaders are helping to get the proper information to farmers during the growing season. Illinois' wartime motto is "maximum food production with good soil management," and leader-training meetings were held in every county.

With the additional funds made available by the War Food Administration, extension work in war food production, and conservation is functioning in every county, work with Negroes is expanded, and the information program intensified.

Agent streamlines draft-deferment work

■ For timesaving, County Agent S. B. Thomas recommends the eight meetings of 3 hours each that gave all 2-C and 3-C deferments of Livingston County, Mich., opportunity to receive explanations, bolster their morale as essential workers, and fill out their questionnaires.

County Agent Thomas set up a series of meetings running from January 17 to 24. Sessions began at 8 p. m. A letter written by the county agricultural agent was authorized, signed by the Selective Service Board, and sent to 653 resident deferments and to more than 200 who were registered elsewhere but had moved into the county.

Three to 8 notaries public were obtained for each meeting so that questionnaires could be notarized and collected that evening. A representative of the county Selective Service Board also was present to answer questions at each of the sessions. Attendance ranged from 65 to 200. A pep talk, a showing of the motion picture *Soldiers of the Soil*, and an explanation of procedure were included in the program before questionnaires were distributed. The questionnaire was placed on a large chart so that it could be more easily explained.

Questionnaires have been checked for errors, and the clerical work of processing to determine total work units has begun. Probably nowhere else in Michigan or in the United States is there a device like the one Agent Thomas created to facilitate this job.

Converging lines were drawn on a piece of beaverboard. Cross lines represent work units and the allotted multiples for the crop acres or animals reported. At the bottom, a marked piece of lath is pivoted on a small bolt, permitting the lath to swing over the various index lines.

In the courthouse at Howell, the county agent and his office secretary, Mrs. Margaret Manley, have worked out an efficient processing system.

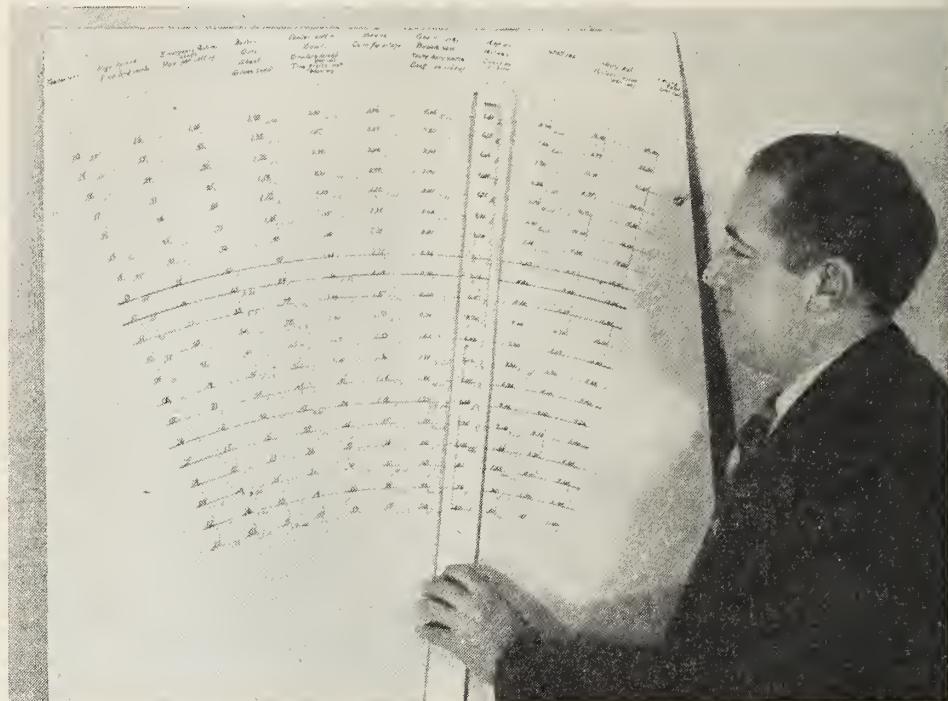
A secretary reads off the commodity and the number of units. Another person stands at the board and swings the slat to the indicated commodity, which makes a reading of the work unit value. This is called off to the first secretary; and, at the same time, the value is punched on an adding machine. When the work sheet has been tabulated, the adding machine total is recorded, and

the process is repeated on the next questionnaire.

One tribute that Mr. Thomas pays to his streamlined method is that it gives him more time to devote to his other

necessary duties as a county agricultural agent. When interviewed, he reported that more than 200 questionnaires had been processed and that all but 4 or 5 seemed to have sufficient farm work to justify deferment consideration by the county Selective Service Board. Some farms were running as high as 90 work units to a farm, although those top-notch farms carried high livestock loads and were manned by several workers.

No patent or even a name legends the device that a Michigan county agent fashioned to process 850 2-C and 3-C agricultural deferments, but the gadget will save an estimated two-thirds of the time that normal checking would take.



Following through with deferred workers

■ Does the responsibility of the Extension Service end with obtaining the facts for Selective Service on the number of war units being handled by an agricultural worker? asked New Hampshire extension workers. The answer was "No," for they decided that obtaining the facts on the number of units is only half of the job that needs to be done. The other half is a definite program to work with the deferred men to determine whether it would be feasible to keep even more units through better planning and organization of the business and whether the productivity of the units being kept could be increased by the adoption of more efficient practices. Accordingly, special forms have been de-

veloped on which to record not only the numbers and kinds of crops and livestock now being kept on the farm but also the increase that could be made in the size of the different enterprises.

The total supply of labor on the farm is also determined on these forms and its accomplishments compared with an acceptable standard of performance for the State. Determining with the farmer whether output could be increased with the labor available involves many considerations. Perhaps a better balance between labor needs and labor supply throughout the year can be obtained by putting less emphasis on some crop enterprise that adds to a summer labor peak and expanding an enterprise that

requires labor in the fall and winter slack seasons, such as dairying.

On some farms, output could be increased if machinery were repaired and seed and fertilizer obtained during the slack seasons so that there would be no interruptions when the rush season arrived. Other farmers have been able to accomplish more by rearranging their buildings and equipment to cut out unnecessary steps, by adopting labor saving devices, and even by eliminating certain parts of a job that are really not necessary for efficient production.

Labor efficiency certainly deserves the consideration it is receiving in New Hampshire, but their follow-up program with deferred agricultural workers is not limited to the above phases of the problem. The possibilities for increasing production through higher crop yields per acre, greater milk production per cow, and increased egg production per hen

are also recognized in their program. The deferred worker is asked to check the type of work on which he desires assistance for each of the major enterprises on the farm. In addition to this, he is asked to indicate whether he would attend a series of agricultural schools to increase production; the days in the week and hours in the day he would prefer to attend; and, finally, the courses in which he would be most interested. As soon as 10 men in an area are willing to take the same course, a teacher is obtained. The interest and sincerity of the deferred workers is indicated by the fact that in February there were 15 schools in the State. These schools are being carried on in cooperation with the State Board of Education.

This program in New Hampshire provides another good example of the fact that increased responsibility also provides additional opportunities.

to their old homes. Other necessary adjustments from wartime to peacetime activities are going on in the midst of war.

"We must scrutinize our community and national plans for young people and for mothers with these changes in mind," she said. "The better we plan for these transitions, now, the better prepared we shall be for the major post-war readjustments."

In summarizing the panel discussions, C. B. Loomis, head of the Department of Sociology of Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga., who led the panel, said that the consensus of the boys and girls seemed to be that education should be made more attractive so that young people would want to stay in school rather than leave as soon as they had reached the required age. Many young people have discontinued school in order to get big pay in industries or to work on the farm. There was also a feeling that the school curricula would be enriched if there were more of the work-study plan carried out.

The young people believed that there were not enough recreation and health facilities in many communities, and that conditions would improve if more homes were opened to them for recreation.

The two girls who represented rural youth at the panel were Deloris Staven, Park River, N. Dak., and Mary Lee Phillips, Barnes City, Iowa. Miss Staven, a senior in agricultural training school, is active in Farmers' Union junior classes, State and county camps, and youth conferences.

Iowa 4-H Club Girl

Miss Phillips, who has graduated from high school, is president of Mahaska County 4-H Clubs. She has had 6 years of 4-H home-economics projects and was a member of the State championship demonstration team in 1942. She expects to enter Iowa State College in the fall. Besides doing her farm work, which includes milking 4 cows morning and night and helping to care for 1,100 broilers and 600 laying hens, she is active in all scrap and bond drives. Miss Phillips owns a local newspaper which she publishes weekly with a duplicating machine. During the panel she told of the constructive work that 4-H Club boys and girls are doing, of the discussion groups that meet in the homes, and of the desire of rural youth to meet oftener with larger groups in the towns.

Miss Phillips believes, as do other members of the panel, that youth should have an active part both in planning and carrying out projects and that when they have something constructive to do they are not doing destructive things.

Youth plan for health and recreation

■ America's boys and girls held forums on May first to talk about what they can do to make their communities healthier, and what they want communities to do for them. They did this on invitation of the President of the United States.

May Day, by resolution of Congress and Presidential proclamation, is celebrated each year as Child-Health Day. In past years, adults have put on May Day campaigns to improve the health of young people. This year, it is youth's turn to say what should be done to protect health in our communities.

Young people, all over the country, accepting the challenge, arranged for gatherings at schools, clubs, churches, town halls, and in homes, to talk about this vital home-front problem. Knowing that good health is not just a matter of having strong bodies, but that having good spirits is a mark of fitness, too, they explored in these forums all kinds of ways of making neighborhoods, towns, and cities better places in which to live.

Previous to the May Day forums 12 boys and girls from 11 States came from schools, farms, and factories to take part in a panel discussion on youth problems, March 17 and 18, as part of the meeting in Washington of the Children's Bureau Commission on Children in Wartime. Their ages ranged from 16 to 19 years. Members of the youth panel were chosen from a group of more than 300 nominations made by adult leaders familiar

with the Children's Bureau programs and working closely with young people in some 100 communities.

When announcing the meeting on youth problems, Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, said: "One of the significant things we are witnessing in these war days is the way our boys and girls are assuming a larger and larger measure of responsibilities in their homes and communities. These 12 boys and girls coming to Washington have first-hand knowledge of what youth is up against. They can help the rest of us plan and act realistically and vigorously for all boys and girls."

Goals for children and youth in the next 2 years will be the main theme of the 2-day session, Miss Lenroot said. She described those years as a time of transition "when we shall be dealing with problems of demobilization even though we are actually increasing our war activities in many areas."

"We cannot wait until the end of the war to deal with post-war problems," she said, pointing out that already well over a million inductees and enlistees have been separated from the services and sent back to civilian life. Here and there some factories are closing down on war production. Though some women are leaving home for factory work, others are going back to their homes. Many families are still on the move, some to war centers, others back

The tomato serves Hawaii

LOUISE JESSEN, Extension Editor, Hawaii

■ "Here are some tomato seeds, new varieties that I've just received from the university's experiment station. Will you plant them and keep a careful record of their yields?"

The county agent who said this gave the farmer a small paper bag of seeds. The bag bore a number, one put there by horticulturists at the University of Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station to distinguish the seeds in this bag from other seeds in other bags that the farm agent has in his car. Those other bags will go to other farmers down the road. These special seeds are from hybrid plants—new varieties created by pollinating by hand the flowers of one variety with those of another. The offspring of these matings have not yet been given names. Like newborn human babies in some hospital they are known by number. Naming will come later, if and when they prove themselves worthy to be perpetuated and take their places in Hawaii's crop picture.

As extension farm agents distribute the seeds to farmers in their districts and supervise the test plantings the farmers will make agent and farmer together play important roles in this latest act in Hawaii's Drama of the Tomato. This drama is part of Hawaii's struggle to save cargo space on trans-Pacific ships by producing as much food as possible for consumption here in the Islands.

Other players in the drama are Dr. William A. Frazier, horticulturist at the University of Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, his co-workers, Fuyuki Okumura, west Oahu farm agent, and the farmers in his district.

If a visitor had dropped into Dr. Frazier's office in the basement of Gilmore Hall at the university a few weeks ago, he would have found the horticulturist sitting over a messy-looking bucket half full of tomato juice. Seeds were floating about in the juice. Beside the bucket of juice was another bucket containing the outer shells of the tomatoes from which the seeds and pulp have been scraped. Dr. Frazier has his sleeves rolled up and his hands are dripping with juice.

"Just saving some seed," he says when asked what he is doing. These are some of the seeds the extension agents are giving to farmers.

The tomatoes Dr. Frazier is cutting up came from a 2-acre field out at Poamoho, the university's experimental farm. More than 200 tomato varieties and hybrids were planted in this field. Alto-

gether they yielded more than 40,000 pounds of tomatoes—20,000 pounds per acre.

Many individual plants in the field produced from 15 to 20 pounds of fruit.

This big crop was harvested in July. Before the war, farmers in Hawaii thought they couldn't grow tomatoes in summer, and the local markets depended upon imports.

Most of the high-yielding plants in the Poamoho test area are the offspring of the Bounty tomato crossed with one of several other varieties.

The Bounty made its first appearance in the Islands in the spring of 1941. The first seed was brought into the Territory by the experiment station. When Fuyuki Okumura, west Oahu farm agent, saw the heavy-fruit vines of the county growing in the garden on the university campus, he went back to his district and told every farmer, "Plant Bounty tomatoes. I'm convinced they'll set fruit in the summer, plenty of fruit."

At first the farmers shrugged their shoulders. After a while one or two of them said:

"Well, I'll try a little plot. Okumura's so sure about this Bounty. Maybe he's really got something there."

"Now all of west Oahu is Bounty crazy," Okumura says.

For several months now Hawaii has raised all the fresh tomatoes consumed in the Territory. Itsuo Saiki of Wailua, Island of Kauai, is a successful tomato grower.

Oahu's estimated tomato production for September 1943 was 226,000 pounds. In September 1941, this island's estimated output was 28,000 pounds.

The purpose of the trial plantings now being made from the seeds in the numbered packages that have been distributed by the extension farm agents is to determine whether some of these new hybrids developed by the experiment station are even better than the Bounty. Notwithstanding its high yields, the Bounty is subject to most of the tomato diseases prevalent in the Territory.

Hawaii's tomato story really began back in 1936. In that year farmers in the Territory began to learn something about packing and grading. For many years prior to 1936 they had raised small amounts of tomatoes in winter, but no one had thought of grading them or of trying to pack them attractively. Green, rotten, and ripe tomatoes were thrown together in the same container and sent off to market, where they sold slowly at a price that barely covered the farmers' cost of production.

In 1936, Ross H. Gast, then Extension's agricultural economist, and H. H. Warner, Extension Director, became convinced that tomatoes could be profitably grown on a large scale in Hawaii, at least in winter. These men advised Hawaii's farmers to grow more tomatoes and to grade and pack them properly.

For a long time the farmers received Extension's advice with apathy, and local agricultural scientists greeted it with an



attitude of defeatism. Asserting that melon flies and spotted wilt would doom to failure any attempt to grow tomatoes here on a large scale, these scientists often told the extension men that they were wasting their time.

"The tomato is a temperate zone vegetable. It's folly to try to raise it in Hawaii," they said.

Extension people stood their ground. County agents conducted grading demonstrations in all the tomato-growing districts in the Territory. Most farmers who watched the demonstrations had never seen a lug box, a sorting bin, a box hatchet, or box nail until extension agents showed them these articles.

Gradually the tomato acreage in the

Territory increased. By the winter of 1940 and 1941 no mainland tomatoes were coming in. Hawaii growers were supplying the market. With the advent of the Bounty in the spring of 1941, they took a long step toward supplying the summer market.

Perhaps the persons who most appreciate Hawaii's tomatoes are the wounded men in the military and naval hospitals. The Territory's farmers are supplying thousands of pounds of tomatoes to these hospitals every month. These tomatoes are not occupying precious cargo space on trans-Pacific ships. They are coming straight from Hawaii's fields to hospital wards. Extension Service men have played a big part in getting them there.

These are but samples of activities under way which need to be extended and expanded to meet wartime need. Family life week gives all extension workers a chance to inventory the work they are doing to reinforce family life and to plan to meet their own local needs.

Expanding 4-H enrollment

In Winnebago County, Ill., we are planning to increase 4-H Club enrollment by 25 percent this year and are already off to a good start.

A 4-H Club assistant was needed but manpower shortage caught up with us and no assistant was available. So Eunice Gale, one of the office secretaries, is doing the job. She is a former 4-H Club member with both agricultural and home economics experience, and has also had a great deal to do with the county program since she came to the office 2 years ago. She is well qualified to help with the county 4-H program this season.

One of the first steps in reaching more boys and girls of club age on our farms was to obtain the active support of the county superintendent of schools. A personal letter briefly outlining the plans for 4-H Clubs was sent to him. He sent this, with his own personal letter and enrollment cards, to each of the 90 rural schools in Winnebago County. Though it is too early to report results, we already have promise of two new clubs if leaders can be found. This is our job and, of course, we propose to get leaders for these and any other clubs starting this year.

Last year, several hundred boys and girls were recruited from the high school in Rockford, Ill., for work on farms during the summer season. They were a salvation to farmers who used them.

Again this year, we are recruiting in the high schools with the cooperation of the board of education. Five high schools and junior high schools are conducting classes with the help of the agricultural labor assistant and the vocational agriculture department. Those enrolled in this training school will begin actual work on the farms over week ends to acquaint them with jobs that need to be done and prepare them for work this summer.

Along with the grand job our boys and girls are doing in 4-H Club work and on our farms, these city youngsters are working shoulder to shoulder with their rural cousins to help feed a fighter in '44. We're proud of them all and know that the sons and daughters of America who are in uniform will also be proud of the job the "youngsters" at home are doing to keep the bread basket full.—*H. R. Brunнемeyer, county agent, Winnebago County, Ill.*

National family week to be observed

May 7 to 14 is being featured throughout the country as National Family Week. Initiated and sponsored jointly by the various religious communions, the observance of the week and the responsibility of the community for safeguarding family life and protecting the home against wartime hazards are called to the attention of the whole community. Religious and civic forces are uniting their efforts to insure every family a wholesome, healthful home environment for all its members, to stabilize home conditions as the best curb upon the threatening increase in juvenile delinquency, to provide wholesome recreational opportunities for all, and to see that care is available for the children whose mothers must work. Neglect of these essentials will be costly, not only to families but to the whole community and the Nation.

Many phases of extension work strengthen rural family life. For example, a definite effort was made in Kansas as in many other States to reinforce the health of the family as a defense measure; and nearly 12,000 individual Kansans enjoyed improved health last year because of the efforts of the home demonstration clubs. More than 2,000 took some positive preventive measures such as immunization against typhoid, diphtheria, and fever; and nearly 5,000 took some preventive measures against colds and other communicable diseases. Nearly 3,000 screened their homes against the housefly and used control measures against rats and mice as measures of home sanitation.

Thousands of Kansas mothers have

also met to discuss problems of child development and guidance and the special problems of adolescence. They have learned to direct recreation at meetings and in the home. They have made good literature available to their families and helped to establish 39 libraries.

The family life department of the New York Extension Service also recognized the family's strategic position in the war effort. In reporting their work, the specialists say: "Families continue to face decided changes, due to break-up of family unity with men in the service or in war industry and wives and children faced with new plans and new pressures. Instability, strain, and tensions have resulted." In the face of these facts, homemakers were asked what help they needed. They asked for help with play group activities for young children, recreation for the school-age child in after-school hours, help in training for character development, and family health.

Following these suggestions, a family life leader in Oswego County reported a neighborhood recreation program planned at the leaders' meeting. Thirty-two people ranging in age from 9 to 81 years came to the community fun-fest. A supper with all seated at one long table was the high light of the evening. A study club on family life in Erie County, seeing the need for more recreational facilities for school-age children, started the wheels turning to build a skating rink for children of the community. The work was done by Boy Scouts and supervised by firemen. The rink was under the direction of the study group.

Leads the way in food preservation

Open all the year round and taking the lead in all kinds of food preservation, the Pueblo County, Colo., center is serving effectively on the food front, from planting the seed to serving the meal. Success is due to cooperation of many agencies and individuals and the excellent management of the supervisor.

The center was opened in April 1943 in a building formerly used for a NYA housing project, centrally located and equipped with electricity, sinks, and four stoves, and having plenty of light. There was also sufficient parking space. The garden committee of both city and county were responsible for the equipment and obtained from WPA storehouses 24 canners and such other equipment as stockpots, colanders, dishpans, and pitchers. Commercial firms donated 17 stoves and a large ice box. Two experienced home demonstration club members served as supervisor and assistant.

The center was soon a hive of activity. It was open every day and sometimes at night so that women who could not leave their children in the daytime and those who were employed could use the center at night. Beginning with the preservation of grapefruit, rhubarb, and asparagus, the center was soon ready to swing into the strawberry season.

Victory gardeners wholeheartedly supported the center, bringing their own produce to can and posting notices of what they had to sell at the center. Up-to-date lists of produce people, truck gardeners, and people having large gardens were also kept in the office with a record of the produce they had to sell. Orders are made through the center and produce delivered directly to the center, saving money, time, and transportation.

In June the canning center held open house, with exhibits on the entire Victory Garden program, including suggestions for fighting insects and plant diseases. Demonstrations of the actual canning of pineapple, peas, and rabbit and the preparation of peas for freezing, as well as the operation of the pea sheller, were featured in the kitchen.

In the fall, many pounds of venison and elk were brought to the center for canning. Much of this meat would have spoiled had the center not offered the opportunity for preserving it. This was just a forerunner of the large amount of meat brought to the center for canning and curing when the butchering season got under way. Chili con carne was especially popular, with sometimes 100 pounds of beans handled for this purpose in a single day.

Recipes, prepared by the supervisor,

for canning these meats for barbecued ribs, chili con carne, and mincemeat, as well as for the usual steaks, roasts, and stews, were available at the center.

After learning how to preserve meat, people at the canning center desired to know how to cut meat properly, and soon meat blocks and other equipment were obtained. A demonstration in meat cutting was given in November by the extension animal husbandman, Harry Smith. Exhibits in connection with this demonstration included the equipment needed, ways of using the head and organs, and what could be done with a pig's head in the way of scrapple, panhas, headcheese, canned pork and beans, and canned meat stock for seasoning.

The pig used in the demonstration was raised by Joe Garcia of Salt Creek, a Mexican town. His experience shows what a Victory Garden can mean to one family. The Garcias became interested in food production when they began to hear so much about Victory Gardens and food production. They decided to start a Victory Garden and, with the help of Mrs. Garcia's parents and by following instructions, had a garden which grew lustily, even though it was their first experience. Mrs. Joe Garcia and her mother canned 800 quarts of vegetables and fruits at the center, and this was their first experience at canning, too. Then Joe built a cellar in which to keep the canned goods, leaving space for stored produce. Besides the 309-pound hog used in the demonstration, they also fattened a steer to butcher and raised some chickens. They are proud of their accomplishments, and their enthusiasm is spreading to the neighbors in the Mexican village, who are saying: "We are

going to have a garden and a pig next year, too."

When cold weather came to this part of Colorado, a winter garden appeared at the center. A large tub was planted with rhubarb, and boxes were filled with parsley and other greens. The large sunny windows were ideal for such a garden.

The records show that about 2,000 people have used the center and canned nearly 64,000 jars. More than 2,000 recipes were given out on request, and 25 to 75 telephone calls were handled every day. Nineteen demonstrations in canning, freezing, and butchering were given at the center, and 80 pressure cookers tested at the center for home canners. Sixty persons planned an entire food-canning budget.

The center is truly a center of all food-preservation activities and grows naturally out of the Victory Garden effort. The county agents assist with the Victory Garden program and the food preservation center. The nutrition specialist acts as technical adviser on food preservation. Their advice and help in correlating the activities of the various organizations taking part have contributed to the success. The setting up of the center was assigned to the American Women's Voluntary Services. The Recreation Commission assumed financial responsibility for installations, cleaning, and placards, charging 50 cents for a half day and 75 cents for a whole day to cover these expenses. The OCD, Associated Garden Clubs, Associated Women's Clubs, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Chamber of Commerce, the Farm Council, county commissioners and city commissioners, PTA, schools, 4-H Clubs, and FSA were among the many local organizations making the Pueblo County Food Preservation Center serve the community well.



4-H Liberty ships go to sea

■ Liberty ships named by 4-H Club members who raised the money to pay for them are being launched on both coasts; but it is not only seacoast youth who are making them possible, for the North Dakota ship named the *Arthur A. Penn* slid from the ways in Richmond, Calif., on February 16, sponsored by a North Dakota 4-H Club member. Minnesota, too, boasts her 4-H Club launching.

From Tennessee comes the report that the outstanding accomplishments of Tennessee 4-H Club members in food production, salvage collection, bond buying, and other wartime contributions have been recognized by the name of a new Liberty ship for the late Charles A. Keffer, former extension director in Tennessee.

The ship was launched at Savannah, Ga., in March, with two 4-H Club members, a boy and a girl, and a home demonstration agent participating.

The name of the new ship recognizes the contribution which the late Dr. Keffler made to 4-H Club work in Tennessee while he was director of the Extension Service, from 1914 until his death in December 1935.

Typical of the 4-H war bond drives to finance Liberty ships is that of the 4-H Clubs of the State of Washington, reported by Charles T. Meenach, acting 4-H Club agent. This campaign was climaxed when the good ship *E. A. Bryan* slid triumphantly down the ways of the Richmond, Calif., shipyards on February 29. This ship was named for the late Enoch A. Bryan, president of State College of Washington from 1893 to 1916.

Washington club members sold \$3,370,555 in war bonds between January 3 and March 1 to finance this ship, and then dedicated it to all former 4-H Club members now serving in World War II.

Washington club members made thousands of personal contacts. They appeared before public meetings and in special programs all over the State. At the start of the campaign, each county was given a quota or goal to reach, the total goal for the State being \$2,000,000. Twenty counties exceeded their quotas.

Garfield County led all others by exceeding its quota more than 10 times. The assistance which Garfield County Agent Philip E. Bloom obtained from the county bond committeemen and the leaders in the various communities of the county made the record possible.

Spokane County club members, under the leadership of Walter Click, associate extension agent, alone sold more than half a million dollars worth of war bonds. Similar results were accom-

plished by club members in Yakima, Whitman, Skagit, Pierce, San Juan, and Lincoln Counties. The 35 high club members sold three-fourths of a million dollars worth of E Series bonds.

As a reward to the winning club members in the State contest, they were invited to take part in the christening and launching of an aircraft carrier at a shipyard in western Washington. Gold recognition pins were also awarded to 4-H Club members who were outstanding in the war bond drive in each county. All club members taking part in the drive

received a special certificate of award for wartime service signed by the Governor and others in the State connected with the war bond program and 4-H Club work.

A State-wide bond-selling contest sponsored by a radio station awarded 3 purebred dairy calves to winners based on the greatest number of bonds sold to different people. In addition, many counties gave special awards to club members who were good bond salesmen, as in Whatcom County where the county agents made arrangements for club members to participate in the launching of an auxiliary Navy ship in Bellingham, which was attended by more than 100 Whatcom County 4-H Club members.

Former 4-H Club members join State staffs

■ Three former 4-H Club members have joined the State 4-H Club staffs in their respective States.

Mrs. Cleo E. Scott was appointed March 1 as assistant in club work in charge of the 4-H meal planning project in South Dakota. Mrs. Scott, formerly Cleo Eller, was a 4-H Club member in Sully County for 8 years and served as a junior leader 2 years. She represented the State at the 1934 National Club Congress, Chicago, as a county project winner and was one of the four State delegates to attend the National Club Camp in Washington, D. C., in June 1937. She graduated from South Dakota State College in 1940, taught home economics in Wessington Springs high school and served as home demonstration agent at St. Cloud, Minn., for 2 years.

Marylee Holmes, formerly home demonstration agent of Jasper County, Mo., was appointed to the Missouri 4-H Club staff on March 15. Miss Holmes graduated from the University of Missouri in 1937. Her outstanding record as a 4-H Club member, officer, and leader, and her successful experience as home demonstration agent for almost 7 years provide a good background for her new work as State club agent. As a club member she achieved recognition first in Buchanan County, then at the State 4-H Club round-up at the Missouri College of Agriculture, and finally as a State delegate to the National Club Congress at Chicago and later to the National Club Camp at Washington, D. C.

Milo S. Downey of Maryland has recently been named State 4-H Club leader in his State. Mr. Downey was born on a farm near Williamsport, Md.,

was a 4-H Club member from 1920 to 1923, specializing in swine and dairy club work. He was a member of his county 4-H dairy judging team, which team was an alternate to the one which represented the United States in the international dairy cattle judging contest in England. Mr. Downey was graduated from the University of Maryland in 1927. He taught vocational agriculture in the high school at Thurmont, Md. From 1929 to 1934, he was assistant county agent in Allegany County from 1934 to 1936, was district club agent for Allegany, Washington, and Carroll Counties. He became assistant State club leader of Maryland in 1936, and now is State club leader, succeeding E. G. Jenkins, who recently retired.

WLA tractor schools

Tractor schools for women are being planned by the Women's Land Army supervisors and the State labor assistants in many States. Katherine L. Potter, assistant State farm labor supervisor, Women's Land Army in Maine, reported a campaign in Aroostook County to recruit 300 women for a tractor-driving course. These women are needed as a shift crew for harrowing the Maine potato fields during the month of May. Employed women will give from 3 to 5 hours in the late afternoon or early evening to relieve men who have been harrowing long hours. Kansas plans to conduct about 100 tractor schools for women. These women are to be taught by vocational agriculture teachers who prepared for the job by training older school boys to act as assistants. Nebraska also reports spring activity in this field.



Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

Read from cover to cover

Copies of the REVIEW containing "Extension agents at the fighting front" have been sent to each of the names on the list for whom an address was given. Letters like the following make it worth the extra effort:

"The copies of the Extension Service Review were forwarded to me here. I surely appropriate receiving them, for it was about like seeing an old friend from home. Thank you very much for sending them. All copies have been read from cover to cover.

"Before entering the service, I was county club agent in Butler County, Kans."—*Lt. John B. Hanna, 745th Sanitary Co., Camp Carson, Colo.*

There are still copies available for former agents now in the armed forces, which will be mailed out whenever an adequate address is supplied.

From Africa

One of the boys came home with a monkey the other day, so now we have a monkey and a dog in the company. The dog and the monkey have become great friends. The boys take a great interest in their care and general welfare. Reminds me of the 4-H Club boys and their calves. They are good creatures to have around. Believe they help the war effort considerably.

The oranges and tangerines are ripe now; and they use a lot of them for the same purpose as they use grapes—much stronger and a much higher proof than the grape vintage. These boys take very good care of their vineyards and orchards. They prune, weed, and spray very religiously. Arab labor is very cheap, so you see Arabs doing all of the field work, including plowing with oxen—sometimes a skinny mule and oxen hooked up in tandem.

There is plenty of work over here in the line of sheep production; and as far as hogs—well, you have to go back to the mountains and go wild boar hunting to even find a fair resemblance of a pig. Plenty of light horses used over here, especially on the streets and the highways. The Arab teamsters are always forming a bottleneck. Think they derive a great delight in doing it.

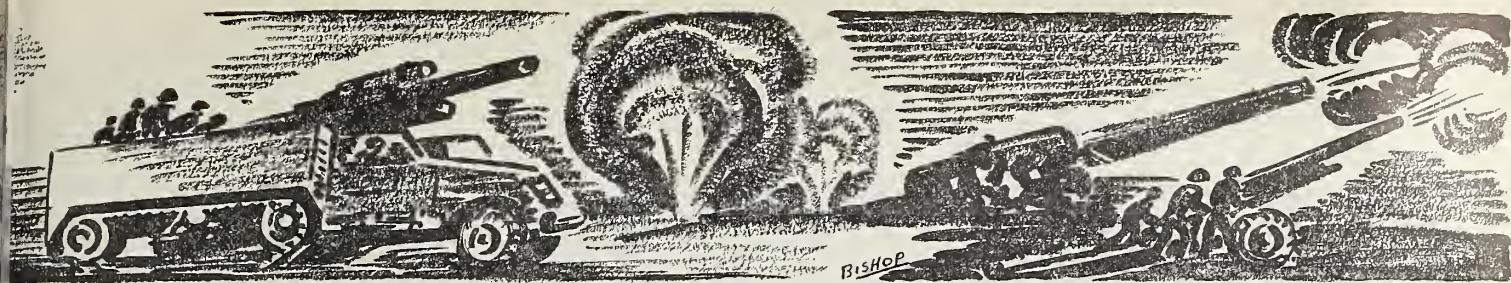
It might be of interest to the home demonstration agents to know that coffee is made of date seeds over here; but I don't advocate putting that in their program—unless they want to join the WACS. They do have some needlework over here that is really nice, but their dressing certainly doesn't show it.

Oh, yes, the owner of this monkey wanted to know which specialist he should write to.—*Lt. Carl M. Elling, Army, formerly Hodgeman County agent Kansas.*

■ Out in the Desert, . . . I don't know when I'll get another chance to come home. Maybe none until this conflict is over. The sooner the better, because I'd still rather do county agent work than anything else, back in old McMullen County . . . If you could get a copy of the music to "Good-bye to Texas University," I sure would appreciate having it to give to our band."—*Lt. Ernest J. Botard, Texas.*

From India

"Rice, cattle, and kids are the principal crops. Cattle are low quality—about one-half of them Brahma, one-fourth buffalo, and the balance a mixture of the two. I can see now why some of our Brahma cattle have turned-down horns. They inherit that from some of their ancestors, the water buffalo. Rice is all paddy. Over the centuries, the terraces have been built by humans (mostly wo-



men), with hand tools and baskets. I've had occasion in my work and on Sundays while hunting to visit the hinterland of this part of India, and the sights in the villages in the jungle are something I'll never forget.

"... The houses are of mud or bamboo construction (the termites eat up wood in 2 years), and almost invariably the bullock is in the house with the family. This fact reminds me of my first impression of India—it stinks of manure. If they would use it properly instead of for fuel, the soil would be a lot more productive.

"On the two recent hunts (Sundays), I've killed a bear on each occasion. It was quite a thrill—the last one at 16 paces. We use army rifles, so you can imagine that a poor bear hasn't much chance. Deer are very plentiful; and so are bear, leopard, hyena, and smaller game. Tigers are not plentiful but numerous enough to make hunters careful . . .

"I've said a lot about India. It's fine, provided the prospect for a quick return to the U. S. A. is possible. We had canned corn for Christmas and New Years dinner. The boys here hadn't seen anything like that in so long they almost cried. Chow generally is fair, but I haven't seen a steak in 2½ months."

Capt. A. K. Smith, Jr., Army, formerly county agent in St. Landry Parish, La.

The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

SOUTH DAKOTA

John F. Neu, Hutchinson County agent.

TENNESSEE

Lester O. Akers, C.M. 3C, assistant agent, Stewart County, Navy.

Lt. Joe D. Beasley, assistant agent, Loudon County, Army.

A/S Charles Benziger, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Fred Brehm, college clerical staff, Army.

Cumi Campbell, college clerical staff, WAC.

Lt. Joe E. Carpenter, assistant agent, Hancock County, Army.

Pvt. G. W. Franklin Cavander, assistant agent, Henry County, Army Air Corps.

Capt. H. J. Childress, Putnam County agent, Army.

Ensign Gordon L. Chute, assistant forest specialist, Navy.

Lt. Raymond E. Cobble, assistant agent, Rhea County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Harry R. Cottrell, Houston County agent, Army.

Ella Mae Crosby, WAVES.

Lt. Edwin C. Duncan, assistant agent, Dickson County, Army.

Robert B. Elwood, assistant economist, Army.

Maj. Oscar L. Farris, Davidson County, Army.

Lt. William H. Fisher, assistant agent, Gibson County, Army.

Lt. Arley Hamby, Van Buren County agent, Army.

Lt. Sam L. Hansard, assistant agent, Claiborne County, Army.

Maj. H. H. Harmon, assistant agent, McMinn County, Army.

Lt. Oliver Harmon, college clerical staff, Army.

Maj. Reuben B. Hicks, assistant, rural electrification, Army.

A/C Carothers House, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Lt. N. H. Houser, college clerical staff, Army.

Lt. Ralph Hudson, college clerical staff, Marines.

Pvt. Tom Jones, college clerical staff, Army.

Sgt. Joe Keller, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Ensign Woodson King, college clerical staff, Navy.

Louise Landess, Greene County home demonstration agent, Marines.

Lt. William Leach, college clerical staff, Army.

Capt. James W. Long, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Woodrow Luttrell, assistant agent, Houston County, Army.

Pvt. Robert W. Moore, Jr., assistant agent, Stewart County, Army.

Mary Joe Moran, Perry County home demonstration agent, WAVES.

Lt. Col. N. B. Morgan, farm management specialist, Army.

Lucille Moser, college clerical staff, stenographer, American Red Cross.

Corp. Claude Norris, assistant agent, Johnson County, Army Air Corps.

Lt. David B. Price, assistant agent, Henry County, Army.

Capt. Alfred E. Pugh, assistant agent, Dickson County, Army.

Midshipman Rodney Purnell, college clerical staff, Navy.

Midshipman F. R. Robertson, assistant agent, Decatur County, Navy.

Pvt. James H. Robinson, assistant agent, Loudon County, Army.

Capt. Ben Rowlett, S. K. 3d Class, assistant agent, Gibson County, Navy.

Sgt. W. C. Sharp, Jr., college clerical staff, Army.

Ensign Joe W. Sloan, assistant agent, Bedford County, Navy.

Ensign George H. Stephenson, assistant agent, Polk County, Navy.

Capt. William B. Stewart, Smith County agent, Army.

Maj. Buford T. Strawn, Bledsoe County agent, Army.

Capt. Sam Stubblefield, college clerical staff, Army.

Marvin Tarpey, college clerical staff, Army Air Corps.

Ensign James D. Taylor, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Navy.

Second Lt. Floyd E. Timbs, assistant agent, Stewart County.

A/C P. A. Turner, Houston County agent, Army Air Corps.

Lt. Howard D. Turrentine, assistant agent, Giles County, Army.

Pvt. J. W. Vaughn, assistant agent, Benton County, Army.

Wesley N. Williams A. S. (R.), assistant agent, Cocke County, Navy.

Maj. Paul J. Wood, assistant agent, Roane County, Army.

UTAH

William H. Bennett, Carbon County agent, Army.

Max Conrad, Weber County assistant agent, Navy.

LaVal S. Morris, landscape architect, Army.

Charles W. Warnick, Box Elder County agent, Army.

Keep farm land moving from tenants' to owners' hands

JAMES L. ROBINSON, Extension Economist, Farm Credit Administration

■ Farm land is moving into farmers' hands. Farm operators are the buyers of a majority of the farms in the most rapid country-wide transfer of agricultural land in the Nation's history. Except in a few areas, there are more farmers buying than farmers selling. This is a wholesome reversal from the depression period when thousands of owners lost their homes. It is one of the greatest long-time gains that can come out of the good wartime farm incomes.

A danger signal, however, is already out. The percentage of urban buyers has been continually rising for 2 years or more. Each sale of agricultural land by farmers to urban buyers directly reduces owner operation, for each farm so sold means changing to a tenant basis. Should this trend continue, we shall soon be back to the old situation—the gradual growth in tenancy and a decreasing ownership by farmers of their businesses and their homes.

Tenant operators are buying a large number of farms. Everyone is glad of this, for each sale of land to a tenant or other operator by an urban owner, estate, or corporation adds to family ownership and operation of our farms—a tradition we as a people are anxious to maintain. Corporations (chiefly mortgage lenders) now have either sold out their holdings or greatly reduced them, and many estates that have been held for a number of years are now being settled. Individually, too, the purchase of a farm is usually the best place for a tenant operator to put his savings—that is, as long as the price of the land is reasonable.

From Farmer to Farmer

A number of these land sales are from one farmer to another. This may help by increasing the size of a unit that is too small, or it may get a farm into younger, more vigorous hands. The average age in 1942 of sellers of farms mortgaged to the Federal Land Bank and commissioner in the Springfield district was 56, whereas the buyers averaged 41 years. Other farmers, however, expecting to remain in the business, are sometimes tempted to sell because they can realize a nice profit on the price they paid. Then, when they try to buy another farm, they usually find that they must pay an even higher price for com-

parable values. Much trading of this kind took place in the land boom after the last war and helped fan the fire of inflation in land prices.

Preliminary estimates indicate that farmers spent 12 hundred million dollars for war bonds during 1943, probably double the amount they used in land purchase—a ratio that should be increased. It is better for farmers who own the land they need to operate to use their higher incomes during the war period to buy war bonds than to purchase additional land; better for farmers in general because it reduces the upward pressure on land prices, and

often better for them individually because most of those who buy will not sell out at a profit and will have more land than they want to manage in their later years. That 12 hundred million in war bonds is a net addition to the wealth of farmers as a group, which if used in buying farms from each other would have resulted only in putting a higher dollar mark on the agricultural land in the country.

Nearly half a billion dollars was applied to net debt payment in 1943, a use of farm income that greatly improves the land ownership position of the farmers. This reduction in outstanding debt is in direct contrast to what happened during World War I. During and following that war, farm mortgage debt more than doubled. How long, however, will this continue? The number and amount of farm mortgages recorded are increasing. In a few areas they have already become greater than the amounts paid off.

Milkweed floss needed for war

■ Milkweed floss is so urgently needed this year for life vests, aviators' suits, and such war uses that a pod-collecting campaign is being organized among school children, 4-H Club members, and, in fact, any who know where the milkweed grows.

Last year, 150,000 pounds of floss was collected largely by school children in Michigan. A number of 4-H achievement awards in Michigan last year were based on milkweed collection. These young folk tried to collect at least two bags each—enough for one Mae West life vest, which might save the life of a brother or a friend, perhaps a former 4-H Club member now fighting at the front.

Last year, in a few counties in Michigan, War Hemp Industries, Inc., of the Department of Agriculture set up buying stations and drying yards, conveniently located, where individuals could obtain without deposit empty 50-pound, 1-bushel, open-mesh onion bags for picking, and where the full bags could be turned in as soon as filled at 15 cents a bag, with no worries about the drying, which was handled by the corporation.

Elsewhere, the drying of the bags of pods was done by the school or club, and an additional 5 cents a bag was paid for this. The only really important point to the drying was to get the bags hung up in full sun and wind, at least 12 inches off the ground, and within 24 hours after picking. This job was usually handled without difficulty; though unnecessary

work was done by some people who did not realize that dew, rain, or snow would not hurt properly hung bags of pods.

Most of the 1944 collection will have to be dried by individuals, schools, and clubs participating. The vocational agriculture teacher, the 4-H Club leader, the Scoutmaster, or someone else may be designated as the authorized buyer for the War Hemp Industries, Inc., and will make cash payments to the collectors.

Young folk in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri are asked to take part in this necessary war activity.

It is important to collect even in localities where milkweed is not abundant. County Agent L. R. Arnold of Ottawa County, Mich., had never considered milkweed as one of Michigan's major weeds, but 893 bushel bags of pods were collected. It is certain that many counties in the 21 States named have more milkweed than Ottawa County.

Full information as to State and local representatives will soon be available and will be sent to county agents. Definite instructions for handling and other information can be obtained from the Petoskey, Mich., office of War Hemp Industries, Inc., in the meantime.

Although other materials can be substituted for kapok in many uses, milkweed floss is the only available substitute

light, buoyant, and waterproof enough to be acceptable for use in lifesaving apparel by the armed services, and the only way to get it is by collecting it wherever it grows wild. At least temporarily, milkweed is elevated from a bad weed to an essential war crop. Pick milkweed pods and save a life.

Farmers honored for war work

Recognition for their work in producing food under war conditions was given to 25 farmers of Middlesex County, Mass., at a meeting in Concord, the county seat, on January 27, reports County Agent A. F. Mac Dougall.

The farmers and their wives were guests of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture; and the president, Nathaniel I. Bowditch presided at the meeting and presented the "A" pennants to the farmers with a framed certificate and individual button for each person working on the farm. Mr. Bowditch is also president of the Middlesex County Extension Service.

The 25 farmers were chosen by the trustees of the Extension Service as examples of the farmers in Middlesex County who are producing food under extraordinary war conditions. The reasons for the citation were read as each award was made.

Governor Leverett Saltonstall was present and paid high tribute to the farmer's place in backing the fighting men at the front.

The recognition for war service and the enthusiasm of this meeting will help farmers to continue to do all they can to keep production high and hasten the end of the war.

Newspaper issues 4-H Club edition

The Skagit County, Wash., 4-H Club Builder edition of the Mount Vernon Daily Herald appeared on Saturday evening, March 11, an annual event looked forward to by all Skagit County club members and their families. There was news of what 4-H Clubs are doing and planning, features and fillers based on last year's report, a copy of the President's letter to 4-H Club members on the occasion of 4-H mobilization week, March 4 to 11, a letter from the county commissioners, and articles by Director Knott and the county agents. The record made by some of the bond sellers in the recent campaign to buy a Liberty ship was given recognition, and there were plenty of pictures to illustrate the activities of these wide-awake club members. This is one of two Washington counties having such special editions, reports Charles T. Meenach, acting State 4-H Club agent. The other is in Lewis County.

Grover B. Hill sworn in as Under Secretary



In the picture, from left to right, are Vice President Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, Under Secretary Grover Hill, Chief of Plant and Operations Arthur Thatcher, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, and Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones.

■ On April 3, 1889, Grover Bennet Hill was born in the range country of Cooke County, Gainesville, Tex., and moved a year later to Amarillo. On February 29, 1944, Under Secretary Grover Hill was sworn into office in the presence of Vice President Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, and several hundred friends and associates. Present also was Jennie B. Hill, wife of the new Under Secretary. When called upon to make a speech, Mrs. Hill said: "I do my talking from behind the scenes."

In that brief sentence, Jennie B. Hill revealed a secret which Grover Hill's friends from Amarillo had known for a lifetime. Grover Hill is a ranchman and a farmer. But he is, first of all, a family man who believes in the democracy and rugged character of rural family life. In the words of War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, whose family has known the Hill family since before the Judge and Grover were born: "Grover is a man of his word. When he tells you that he will do something, he will do it. He might do more, but he will never do less."

Is a Friend of Extension

Grover Hill has been a lifelong friend of extension work. As a successful ranchman and farmer from the Texas Panhandle, he has learned through personal experience and success the importance of using scientific methods of agriculture to improve the practical op-

erations that underlie modern food production on farm and range. In all programs he has worked very closely with Extension Service. He is a great believer in local committees of farmers and in letting them decide the policies to be followed in meeting local agricultural problems. "The committee system," he says, "is democracy. It's our form of government."

Grover Hill's first connection with the Department was in 1934 when we had the first great drought. The cattle country was drying up. Livestock had to be sold fast, moved, or provided with emergency feed. As a practical ranchman, Grover Hill joined in grass-roots action to get faster motion out of Washington. He spearheaded the development of the first range program. Although he has lived in Washington for more than 10 years, he still maintains that down-to-earth philosophy of farmers and ranchmen.

He knows personally practically all the State directors of extension and counts them as his friends. He looks to the Extension Service for leadership in all educational phases of the food production program as outlined in Memorandum 31. In addition to his duties as Under Secretary of Agriculture, he also is First Assistant War Food Administrator, in which capacity he has done much to help War Food Administrator Jones bring about unity and understanding among the various agencies serving United States farmers in the tremendous job of meeting wartime food production.

Town youth train for farm work

■ Victory Farm Volunteer training courses are under way in many States. They range from orientation sessions in the regular school program, as in the Salem, Oreg., public schools, to intensive work on farms and at agricultural schools where farm skills are taught.

An effective combination of both types of preparation is illustrated by the farm orientation courses at 6 centers in Indiana. Nearly 300 boys and girls are already enrolled; and recruiting is being done for a seventh course, with several more to be organized in the near future. The courses are not expected to produce skilled farm hands, but they will acquaint the boys and girls with farm life, teach them to operate some farm machinery and clear up many of the false impressions about farming that they may have, according to A. C. Sharp, State VFV supervisor.

Classes are organized by school officials, in cooperation with county agricultural agents, and are offered for 30 hours, after school, and on Saturdays. Ten hours are devoted to classroom instruction on the nature of farm life, farm jobs, farming as a business, personal care, and farm safety. The other 20 hours are spent on farms, learning different kinds of jobs such as livestock feeding, the handling and care of livestock, and farm machinery operation and maintenance. The young people are also being encouraged to plant gardens either at school or at home to give them experience in working with crops.

C. E. Bublitz, State VFV supervisor in Minnesota, and A. V. Storm of the Vocational Education Department of the Minnesota Department of Public Instruction have organized training programs in 120 schools throughout the State, including classes after school and week-end trips to nearby farms. When school is out, the boys who have been trained will be placed for all summer jobs with general and dairy farmers in the State.

New York public schools are organizing farm clubs which will become the centers both for enrollment and for preparation training for farm work. Meetings are being held weekly. Members who have worked on farms in previous years discuss their experiences; and use is made of a selected list of books, periodicals, bulletins, charts, and slide films. Trips are taken to nearby farms wherever possible. New York City schools are sending groups to the Newtown Agricultural School for a week's training in farm skills, and some of the

State agricultural schools will also be used for this purpose.

New Jersey is undertaking two training programs for VFV boys. Sixteen groups of four boys each are being given a 3-week course at the Beemerville Experiment Station and nearby farms. The first week is spent at the experiment station; and the other 2 weeks are spent on individual farms, under the supervision of two vocational agriculture teachers and the county agent. Occasional meetings of the entire group are held at the experiment station. The boys are recruited by the Department of Agricultural Education and placed by the Extension Service. They are expected to work at least 2 months during the summer. A training program is also being carried on in Hunterdon County, N. J. There the boys are placed directly on farms for the 3 weeks' training period.

To help relieve the shortage of dairy farm workers in Connecticut, a program for training nonfarm youth for live-in jobs has been organized by the Extension Service and the Vocational Agriculture Department. A minimum of 250 boys

and girls will receive training. Youth who worked on farms in 1943 form a nucleus for the training groups, and courses are being given in schools all over the State. Nearby farmers cooperate by allowing trainees to acquire work experience on their farms. Such skills as handling forks and hoes, tractor harrowing, handling farm animals, and cleaning barns are taught at the local centers. As farmers are reluctant to allow inexperienced youth to operate milking machines, a training course has also been organized at the University of Connecticut. Although the use of milking machines is the principal objective of the course, other skills will also be taught. The university course lasts a week and is given to boys and girls in groups of 20.

After completion of the university course, the young people return to their local groups and continue training until the end of the school term. Whenever possible, they are placed for week ends on the farm where they will work during the summer, so that they can become acquainted with the farm family and the kind of work to be done. Farmer training in the handling of inexperienced hired help is being carried on in connection with this program.

Minnesota agent gets coverage

■ "I think you will agree with me that this is really getting coverage," writes Director P. E. Miller of Minnesota of the February report of County Agent Raymond Aune of Olmsted County. Agent Aune, as the other Minnesota agents, is emphasizing the need for more feed production. In the month of February, he assisted in some way with 102 meetings, bringing together more than 3,300 in the county. Not all of these meetings were attended by the county agent, but he did attend 43 and worked with leaders, Soil Conservation Service men, Farm Security advisers, and vocational agriculture teachers in planning the others. The 102 meetings included the regular organized groups such as 4-H Clubs and township organizations.

At these schoolhouse meetings, neighborhood leaders were elected. The system set up 2 years ago did not use the school districts, but neighborhood leaders are now being elected by school districts, which gives a more definite boundary line to the neighborhood and gets the closest to any resemblance of a neighborhood, in the judgment of Agent Aune.

In the first 3 months of the year, these leaders arranged for about 85 schoolhouse meetings and stimulated attendance at the meetings. They assumed the responsibility of collecting at least \$10,000 for the Red Cross from rural Olmsted County. The women leaders took part in the wartime foods and clothing projects. "With these definite contributions made, if the neighborhood leaders do nothing else in 1944, I am inclined to think they have been very much worth while," says Mr. Aune; and he continues, "We have to give these neighborhood leaders a definite job to do at least once in a while instead of dealing too much in the abstract."

In addition to the 102 meetings, he reported 4,381 office calls and 476 telephone calls. Twelve newspaper articles were published during the month on extension activities, 4 radio talks broadcast, and 3,700 bulletins distributed. It would look to the uninitiated that Director Miller is right and County Agent Aune did get coverage in Olmsted County. The need for greater feed production has come to rural people at meetings, in visits from leaders, in the newspapers, and over the radio.

We Study Our Job

VFV's farm in New Jersey

One of the most diversified plans for utilizing the services of in-school youth on farms in 1943 was found in New Jersey. Of the nine VFV studies made by the Extension Service and the U. S. Office of Education, two were in New Jersey, one in the area surrounding the Peddie School, and the other in Essex County. In these two studies three different types of Victory Farm Volunteers' programs were found, namely, the farm labor camp, the live-in, and the day-haul groups.

Peddie School Houses VFV's

On June 14, 1943, the Peddie School opened its doors to boys who volunteered for farm work in that area. The boys lived at the school, where they paid \$11 a week for their board, room, and laundry.

The Peddie School, a private preparatory school for boys, is in an important farming section of New Jersey. Large amounts of vegetables and fruits are raised in the area. Consequently there is a large demand for peak-load harvest labor.

The administration of the Peddie School became interested in the farm labor project because they desired, first, to aid in the war effort by working on food production; second, to give non-farm boys the educational experience of learning to adjust themselves to farm life; and third, to be an educational influence in the community. The project started on a small scale in 1942, and was so successful that the school continued in 1943.

At the time of the study, which was late in the summer of 1943, 76 boys were still in the project; 98 had returned home for various reasons. Some of the boys had returned home because it was nearly time for their schools to open.

The Peddie School project was well staffed. The staff consisted of the director, a person in charge of supervision and placement, an accountant, a part-time nurse, and five field supervisors who also had supervisory functions at the camp. This staff was very carefully selected and was an important factor in the success of the project. As stated above, there were five field supervisors. These supervisors worked with the larger groups, small groups were supervised by

the farmer-employer. The five supervisors had made a very careful study of their job and were using excellent procedures for giving instruction on the job, improving the morale, obtaining effective work by the boys, and maintaining good relationships with the employer.

Excellent Living Conditions

The living conditions at the school were excellent. The Victory Farm Volunteers utilized the recreational facilities of the school, and they lived under the rules and regulations which the school maintains for its regular students. Farmers furnished the transportation between school and farms.

The boys in the Peddie School project worked 6,266 days. Their total earnings were \$17,572. The highest amount earned by any one boy was \$278.72, earned by Robert Lewitter. The highest daily wage, \$9.09, was earned by Walter Crooke. The Peddie School project is a demonstration of how a private or public school can participate effectively in the farm labor program.

Essex County

Essex County is a vegetable area primarily, although there are other important farm enterprises. The county is in the New York metropolitan area. Most of the boys worked in day-haul groups, going back and forth from their homes each day. There were no girls in the program.

The Essex County Vocational School conducted a training course in 26 junior and senior high schools, beginning March 29 and ending June 18. In addition, each trainee took three field trips. Small groups under the supervision of some teacher visited selected farms and did farm work like weeding, wheel hoeing, and candling eggs. Thirty different farms were used for these trips. The teaching was done by a staff of three special teachers of agriculture.

The Essex County Vocational School has a junior employment service which handled the placement of these day-haul groups. Many of the boys trained in Essex County were placed in adjoining counties. The junior employment service was successful in handling this difficult problem. In Essex County a prospective worker who is enrolled in high school is interviewed by the Junior Em-

ployment Service which has complete information on the student's personal record form. This information enables the training officer, before the training program opens, to eliminate many prospective workers who are ill-adapted to farm work. The training program itself also serves as a selective device. Seven hundred and sixty-seven placements were made, part of them in other counties. The Junior Employment Service cooperates effectively with the State and local extension services.

During the study, 45 day-haul workers were interviewed. They worked on an average of 8.8 hours per day and did on an average of 51.9 days of work. The average highest wage received per day was \$2.62.

Help Sussex County Farmers

A special training program was carried on at the Beemerville Experiment Station. Small groups of boys from the Nutley High School in Essex County were taken to Beemerville for periods of 3 weeks. It was possible to do this while school was in session under the 15-day provision in the New Jersey law. The board of these boys was paid by a group of Sussex County dairy farmers, and they were employed by these farmers during the summer of 1943. Members of the experiment station staff gave the instruction. The fact that the boys who were interviewed worked an average of 65 days indicates that the project was successful.

These Nutley High School boys who worked in Sussex County put in on an average of 10½ hours per day. They were paid about \$30.00 per month in addition to board and lodging. These boys worked at 4 to 50 different farm jobs during the summer, the average being 27 different jobs.

Most of the boys had joined the VFV's to get farm-work experience as well as to help in the war effort. In general, they were satisfied with their working and living conditions on New Jersey farms. Farmers thought the VFV's did good work, and half of them said the boys took the place of former hired help—*THE VICTORY FARM VOLUNTEERS DO GOOD WORK, by Fred P. Frutchey of the Federal Extension Service, and Frank W. Lathrop of the U. S. Office of Education, December 1943. Limited distribution.*

Profiles of successful extension leaders

MRS. LAURA HAHN, a hard-working neighborhood leader near Yelm in Thurston County, Wash., made it possible for farmers to get their snap beans and berries harvested last year.

In an ordinary season, dairy and poultry farmers around Yelm who grow beans and berries as a side line can expect from 2,000 to 2,500 migrant workers to harvest these crops. But of course things have changed now, and these folks realized early in the season that any of the food they could save to help win the war would have to be gathered with little or no outside labor.

A short time before the crops were ready for harvest, Mrs. Hahn was asked by County Agent Allen Johnson to find out from every family around Yelm these things: Whether any member of the family had time to pick beans and berries or had made plans for working on any particular farm, and whether they needed transportation. Growers were asked whether they needed pickers and, if so, how many; whether they had any way of transporting them to and from the farm, and what living accommodations were available.

This request seemed like a big order, but Mrs. Hahn takes this neighborhood-leader business seriously and realized this was the type of job she agreed to do when she became a leader. Of course she could not do it alone, so she rounded up the 92 other neighborhood leaders who were serving in the Yelm district, explained the job, and casually mentioned that it would look mighty bad for a community to have some of its people loitering in stores and on sidewalks when there were food crops to be saved.

This seemed to do the trick; and after a thorough canvass of the area, practically 100 percent of the home folks worked in the bean and berry fields.

County Agent Johnson and the Yelm growers give Mrs. Hahn a great deal of credit for organizing this labor-recruiting drive and lining up other neighborhood leaders to help. They are especially pleased because the job was done without arousing any antagonism in the community.

But Mrs. Hahn likes to keep busy; so, in addition to being a "leader of neighborhood leaders," she did most of the work in raising and harvesting 2 acres of snap beans during the summer months when she usually takes a vacation from her 9 months of teaching school.

THE MORTON TUTTLES, leaders in

Prairie Home, Cooper County, Mo., are living exponents of long tenure of the land, good farming, and community service. They are typical of the best local leadership now supporting extension work and the war effort in that State.

In their community and county, the Tuttles give continuously of time, effort, and understanding through voluntary leadership. Since the low ebb of acre yields after World War I, they have applied 1,400 tons of limestone, terraced the entire 460-acre farm, used legumes and high-analysis phosphate with all small-grain crops.

On the home place and 200 acres that they rented during the past year, the Tuttles raised and fed out 60,710 pounds of pork and 11,110 pounds of beef, produced 2,322 pounds of wool and 413 dozen eggs, and fed out 56,525 pounds of lamb. All crops are marketed through livestock except seed grains for crop improvement. Last year, 1,000 bushels of registered hybrid corn were grown, and 15 acres were used to produce inbred and single-cross corn for future planting.

Mr. Tuttle has been a member of the county extension board since the day the first county agent was employed on a permanent basis. Long a leader in farm cooperatives, he is now president of the county wool-improvement and marketing association and an officer in the county mutual insurance company. He is president of the Missouri Seed Improvement Association and a director in the State Livestock Association. He is a member of the County Council of Civilian Defense and a leader in the work of the community 4-H Club, the church, and the Sunday school in his home community. He is general chairman of several districts in the neighborhood leadership system.

Mrs. Tuttle is an officer and project chairman in her home economics extension club, president of the local school board, sponsor of young people's activities in the local church, and neighborhood leader in wartime campaigns. All members of the family accept community responsibility. Billy Tuttle was president of the community 4-H Club in 1942, and Roy was his successor in 1943. The eldest son, the late Ens. Joseph M. Tuttle, a Navy pilot, gave his life for his country early in the war. His death occurred June 4, 1942, as a result of a fight with six Japanese zero fighters near Dutch Harbor.

MRS. J. A. DUBARD, president of the High Point Home Demonstration Club of Louisville, Miss., a 4-H Club leader for 15 years and a leader in growing the food to fight for freedom, believes in example and last year planted every available acre to food and feed. She reports:

"We planted long staple cotton to help in the war effort, length of staple, 1 1/4 inches. We planted a 1-acre patch of peas for use green, to can, and to save dry for food. I saved 3 bushels of dry peas and canned 30 quarts green. I had three other smaller patches of peas that furnished green peas from July until October.

"We planted 15 acres of soybeans for feed and to sell for producing oil. We planted 2 acres of sweetpotatoes. We did not plant any peanuts due to the shortage of labor and unsuitable ground. We produced 120 gallons of syrup.

"During the year, I had 42 varieties of vegetables growing in my garden. The first of October, 20 of them were growing and ready to eat.

"Early frost got some of the summer vegetables. I had an acre of turnips and mustard, in addition to the garden, for sale. We had at all times of the year from 9 to 42 varieties of vegetables growing in our garden.

"Five hundred strawberry plants and 35 youngberry plants supplied us with fresh small fruits and plenty to can. Eight pear trees, 50 peach, 10 apple, and several plum and apricot trees furnish us and our neighbors plenty of fruit in season and to can for winter and some to sell. Stored in my pantry are 225 quarts of vegetables, 185 quarts of fruit and berries, 65 pints of preserves and jellies, 42 quarts of pickles and relishes, 35 quarts of meat, 200 pounds of dried vegetables, 25 pounds of dried fruit, and 900 pounds of cured meat.

"We have fenced 40 acres for hog pasture and increased the number of hogs since last year. We sold 61 pigs and hogs last year. We now have 3 brood sows, 5 hogs for meat, and 13 pigs, and 2 gilts. We sold for beef 12 animals and have on hand 5 cows and 4 registered beef animals, 6 heifers to increase production this year. We had no beef animals for sale before last year. We have 6 dairy cows, whereas before the war we had only 2. I sold \$58 worth of cream, and we used plenty of milk, cream, and butter at home for our family of 7. We used approximately 2 gallons of milk and 1 pound of butter each day. The skim milk was given to hogs and chickens.

"I increased my number of hens from 20 to 60 by buying U. S. record of performance sired pullets. I sold a flock of White Leghorn pullets, 50 for breeders and 100 dozen eggs."

AMONG OURSELVES

■ GOODRICH S. WALTON has recently been appointed extension editor and information specialist for Wyoming. He comes to Wyoming from New Mexico where he served as assistant extension editor, and before that as information specialist for the AAA.

■ ARTHUR M. HAUKE, acting extension economist in New Mexico, turned back the March 15th page on his desk calendar and grinned with relief.

Away back in September 1943, before anyone but Congressmen had thought about income taxes, Mr. Hauke was assigned to assist farmers and ranchmen in making out their 1943 income tax returns.

He went to work. Eight thousand copies of his circular, "Let's Talk About Your Income Tax," were distributed after its publication in September. When it was revised in January, 6,000 more copies found their way over New Mexico.

In the meantime, Mr. Hauke began to "take the road"—from Hidalgo to Union, from San Juan to Lea—talking income taxes to farmers and ranchmen all over the State. The trips became more frequent as the dead line approached. From January 1 until March 11, Mr. Hauke addressed 44 meetings with a total attendance of 885. But, that wasn't all of it. Community leaders went back home from those meetings to explain difficult points to their neighbors and friends.

By the middle of February, Mr. Hauke was in the habit of talking and couldn't stop. He addressed 60 members of the New Mexico A. & M. College staff. His subject? Hah, you guessed it! "The 1943 Income and Victory Tax Return." And early in March he tossed off two more speeches at Albuquerque.

If New Mexico farmers, ranchers, housewives, and college teachers preserved their sanity during those difficult days in early March, you know one of the secrets. And if Mr. Hauke wanted to grin like a schoolboy when he tore that March 15th page from his desk calendar, no one could blame him.

He threw it into the trash basket and lighted his pipe. And then a memorandum for March 16 caught his eye. "Don't put your feet on your desk, old man. You're due in Carrizozo to address the women's club on 'Women in the Post-war World.' "

■ CHARLES ZEIGLER BATES, forester of the Agricultural Extension Service of Puerto Rico, died recently. A native of Pennsylvania, he graduated from the School of Forestry of Mont Alto, Pa., and served as forester for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for a year before going to Puerto Rico in 1921 to establish a forestry service. He established the first nursery of forest trees for distribution to the farmers of Puerto Rico. He collaborated with the North American botanist, Dr. N. L. Britton, in studies of the Puerto Rican flowers and classification of the trees of the Island. He became extension forester in 1929 and in 1930 attended the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington. On his return, he organized the first 4-H forest clubs on the island.

In speaking of his work, Extension Forester W. K. Williams wrote: "He laid a firm foundation for farm forestry in Puerto Rico. Seeing the great need for trees and wood products on farms, he developed tree nurseries and encouraged the planting of trees on small areas for fuel wood, charcoal, and lumber for other farm uses. He encouraged the planting of trees producing valuable cabinet woods on a community production basis which could supply small furniture factories. Farm tree crops, as thought of by Mr. Bates, would lead to a better economy in rural communities."

■ COUNTY AGENT CARL DALE of Valley County, Nebr., marked his twenty-fifth anniversary in that county in February. His friends in the county and in the State, including Director W. H. Brokaw, helped him to celebrate the occasion with a silver anniversary party.

He has seen agricultural development in the county, but he gives credit for this

to the local folk, who have been interested in new methods of farming and homemaking. Recalling some of the high points of the quarter century, he spoke of two national champion 4-H crops-judging teams of the county. Of the first winning team in 1940, two members are now in the armed services. The coming of irrigation to the county in recent years with the development of the North and Middle Loup projects has increased the problems of the farmers and made activities in new fields necessary, but County Agent Dale kept up with the times and helped to bring an alfalfa mill to the county—an industry which irrigation made possible.

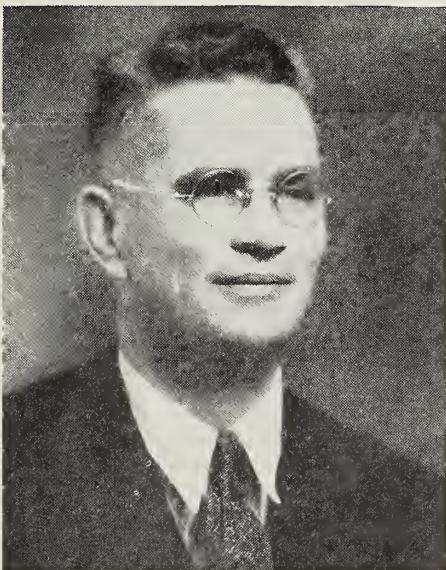
■ T. M. CAMPBELL, Negro field agent with headquarters at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., recently visited this office, enthusiastic for his coming trip to West Africa and the Belgian Congo as one of a group of internationally known missionaries and educators who will make a 6 months' survey of education and rural life there.

Neither the lengthy, but successful, passport tussle with the State Department nor the yellow fever inoculations dampened his eagerness for this interesting assignment which is financed by the General Education Board of New York City. The study is planned by the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland. Most of the group of about half a dozen taking the trip are British, and the Extension Service is honored to have an agent chosen to take part in this survey.

"Many of the missionaries in these countries have visited our work among southern Negro farmers," said Mr. Campbell, "and have felt that our methods might be adapted to their uses. One man, after visiting our movable school, said that was an idea they could use but as there were no roads, they'd have to call it a donkey-back school."

"I'll try to get out and visit the homes," he continued, "and get acquainted with the people, to find out what kind of people they are, what type of farming they are doing, and whether their health and housing or other conditions detract from maximum production." His 30 years of extension work visiting Negro farmers in all parts of the South has given him a fine background for this work.

He will visit Sierra Leone, Liberia, the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Cameroons, Angola, and the Belgian Congo. He promises to write of his experiences for publication in the REVIEW. He will travel by air most of the way, saving a great deal of time traveling in these countries of slow surface transportation.



The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

FARM LABOR NEEDS are being brought to the attention of everyone throughout the country through national press and radio, magazine articles, posters, advertisements, motion pictures, and in other ways. May was chosen as the month for special emphasis nationally because it was felt that this was about the right time, considering the country as a whole, to prepare the ground for the intensive local recruitment needed in the first peak labor month of July. All national publicity urges or emphasizes the national need for farm products and the emergency need for more labor. It is designed to prepare the way for the local recruitment, and persons who hear or read the appeal are urged to watch for the local call.

THE COUNTY AGENT'S KIT of material to help in planning for recruiting local emergency farm workers was mailed out in April and contains a number of suggestions for local newspaper stories, radio talks, display ads, and visual aids.

CITY FOLKS THIS MONTH CAN READ of farm labor needs, in street cars and busses, their favorite magazines, and newspapers. They will see posters in the post office and other public buildings, as well as in their beauty parlors or the Y. W. C. A. They will see a 10-minute short at their favorite motion-picture house and hear it along with their favorite radio program. Interest aroused will be directed to the local needs.

STATE-WIDE ACTIVITIES are also reported this month. Kansas is holding a series of 9 regional conferences in which the Governor and other farm labor leaders are taking part, in cooperation with the Governor's Farm Labor Commission. Indiana reports 300 city boys and girls taking special farm-orientation classes at 6 centers over the State. Typical of these classes are those in Muncie, where 10 hours are devoted to classroom instruction, and 20 hours are spent receiving actual training on farms. Last year, 75 Muncie boys formed a camp work unit to detassel hybrid seed corn and were so satisfactory that farmers want them again this July.

LATE NEWS FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE coming in after the article on page 66 was sent to press, tells of meetings of fathers and sons or employers and hired

men to get across to deferred men that the reason they are deferred is because their work on the land is as essential to the war as their efforts anywhere else could be. These meetings are bringing excellent results, reports Kenneth E. Barracough, State Supervisor of Farm Labor. County agents are working through committees of young men organized at these meetings.

ANOTHER 4-H LIBERTY SHIP, the *O. B. Martin*, sponsored by the Texas 4-H Club boys and girls, was launched the first day of this month. The late O. B. Martin, formerly director of extension in Texas, was one of the early extension pioneers active in formulating the national organization for both 4-H Clubs and home demonstration work. He was in the Federal office before the passage of the Smith-Lever Act until 1929, when he went to Texas.

ON MAY 8, THE LIBERTY SHIP *Howard Gray* slips down the ways at Panama City, Fla., sponsored by the 4-H Clubs of Alabama and named in honor of a former extension worker and former president of the Alabama Farm Bureau. The South Carolina 4-H Liberty Ship, *S. Frank Lever*, has just returned from

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her maiden voyage, successfully delivering a large and important cargo to one of the major European theaters of war. J. H. Nickerson, master of the ship, wrote a letter to all South Carolina 4-H Club members reporting on the thrilling voyage and saying: "Your making possible this Liberty ship and presenting it to our Government is a fine memorial to one of your prominent native sons whose voice, I understand, was often heard in our national halls of Congress championing the cause of South Carolina farmers." The letter was signed by every member of the crew.

BRAZILIAN STUDENTS of farming, 14 of them, have now been placed by county agents in 10 States. They are in Marianna, Lee County, Ark.; Fort Collins, in Larimer County, and Weld County, Colo.; in Newark and Georgetown, Del.; in New Castle and Noblesville, Ind.; in Lincoln, Nebr.; State College, N. Mex.; Hunterdon County, N. J.; Columbus, Ohio; Shelby County, Tenn.; College Station, in Brazos County, and Jim Wells County, Tex.

A FARM LABOR SURVEY was probably the most thorough job done this spring by neighborhood leaders, reports Director J. W. Burch of Missouri. The survey included labor needs and surplus labor available and was done in most of the counties. The leaders were visited by the farm labor assistant, or they received a letter from the county agent giving directions for making the survey. The 1944 plans call for leader-training meetings on the major phases of food production and preservation. This worked successfully last year when Missouri agents held an average of 33 leader-training meetings per county with an average attendance of 14 leaders.

TESTIMONIAL FOR LEADERS was given by Director P. E. Miller of Minnesota in a recent letter in which he says: "I am inclined to think that the neighborhood-leader organization can be made a sound foundation for Extension if we put the necessary energy into its organization, use, and maintenance during the formative years. It will take some time; but, in the end, I am becoming more and more convinced, it will be worth the effort."

MAY 8, 1944 is the thirtieth anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, the law which provides for cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics. President Woodrow Wilson signed the bill on May 8, 1914. The late Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia and the late Representative A. F. Lever of South Carolina were the joint authors.